

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1-22. (cancelled)

23. (currently amended) A method for treating an adult patient suffering from severe systemic inflammatory response syndrome, comprising:

administering to said patient an effective amount of a composition comprising at least one molecule containing selenium, wherein said effective amount is a daily dose of a selenium composition containing about 0.025 to 1 mg/kg of bodyweight of atomic selenium,

and wherein said molecule containing selenium is selected from the group consisting of a selenium salt, selenocysteine, ~~a selenocysteine-containing protein,~~ selenomethionine, selenodiglutathione, selenomethyl selenocysteine, dimethyl selenoxide, selenocystamine and selenated yeasts.

24. (currently amended) The method according to claim 23, wherein said patient is treated for a severe systemic inflammatory response selected from the group consisting of peritonitis, ~~pneumopathies~~ pneumonia, meningitis and bacterial septicemias in a septic shock state.

25. (cancelled)

26. (previously presented) The method according to claim 23, wherein said patient is treated for a severe systemic inflammatory response selected from the group consisting of bacterial infections, parasitic infections, fungal infections, viral infections and rheumatoid polyarthtritis.

27. (cancelled)

28. (previously presented) The method according to claim 23, wherein said selenium is in the form of sodium selenite.

29. (previously presented) The method according to claim 23, wherein several molecules containing selenium are used.

30. (cancelled)

31. (previously presented) The method according to claim 23, wherein said selenium is administered by a parenteral route, intraperitoneal route or oral route.

32. (previously presented) The method according to claim 23, wherein said composition further comprises a non-selenium compound which inhibits an oxidative metabolism or inflammatory reaction.

33. (previously presented) The method according to claim 32, wherein said associated non-selenium compound is selected from the group consisting of vitamin E, vitamin C, a

glutathione precursor, an iron chelator, a copper chelator, copper and zinc.

34. (previously presented) The method according to claim 32, wherein said composition further comprises gold to inhibit an inflammatory reaction.

35. (currently amended) A method for treating an adult patient suffering from severe systemic inflammatory response syndrome or any state corresponding to a severe acute attack of an inflammatory pathology causing an exacerbation of cytokine secretion, comprising:

administering in a first treatment to said patient an effective amount of at least one molecule containing selenium, wherein said effective amount is a daily dose of a selenium composition containing about 0.025 to 1 mg/kg of bodyweight of atomic selenium,

followed by further administering to said patient a subsequent treatment of an effective amount of at least one molecule containing selenium, wherein said effective amount in said second treatment is a daily dose of a selenium composition containing about 0.00625 to 0.025 mg/kg of atomic selenium,

and wherein said molecule containing selenium is selected from the group consisting of a selenium salt, selenocysteine, ~~a selenocysteine-containing protein,~~ selenomethionine, selenodiglutathione, selenomethyl

selenocysteine, dimethyl selenoxide, selenocystamine and selenated yeasts.

36. (currently amended) The method according to claim 35, wherein said patient is treated for a severe systemic inflammatory response selected from the group consisting of peritonitis, ~~pneumopathies~~ pneumonia, meningitis and bacterial septicemias in a septic shock state.

37. (cancelled)

38. (previously presented) The method according to claim 35, wherein said patient is treated from a severe systemic inflammatory response selected from the group consisting of bacterial infections, parasitic infections, fungal infections, viral infections and rheumatoid polyarthtritis.

39. (cancelled)

40. (previously presented) The method according to claim 35, wherein

    said first treatment is administered during a time period between a first day to fourth day of the method, and

    said subsequent treatment is administered 1 to 20 days after said first treatment.

41-43. (cancelled)

44. (currently amended) A method for treating an adult patient suffering from severe systemic inflammatory response syndrome comprising:

- administering to said patient an effective amount of a composition comprising at least one molecule containing selenium, wherein said effective amount is a daily dose of selenium composition providing about 2 to 80 mg of atomic selenium,

and wherein said molecule containing selenium is selected from the group consisting of a selenium salt, selenocysteine, a ~~—~~ selenocysteine-containing ~~—~~ protein, selenomethionine, selenodiglutathione, selenomethyl selenocysteine, dimethyl selenoxide, selenocystamine and selenated yeasts.

45. (previously presented) The method of claim 23, wherein the selenium salt is selected from the group consisting of a selenite or a selenate of inorganic selenium.

46. (previously presented) The method of claim 45, wherein the selenium salt is sodium selenite.

47. (cancelled)